

STUDENTS ATTEND INAUGURATION

February 19, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [People](#), [Politics](#)

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Youth Leaders Chosen for Once-in-a-Lifetime Opportunity

By JEN O'TOOLE
Publishing Editor



Emily Sotolongo poses in front of the masses and jumbo screen. Photos/Lynette Hidalgo.

January 20, 2009 was a historic day where millions of people witnessed the first African American president, Barack Obama, being sworn into office.

Two Lynn University students, Lynnette Hidalgo, senior, and Emily Sotolongo, graduate student, were chosen to attend the 2009 Presidential Inauguration with the University Presidential Inaugural Conference (UPIC). The UPIC is an organization that offered the two alumni of the National Youth Leadership Forum to witness the historic event.

The pair stayed about two miles from the National Mall for five days. Throughout their time in Washington, D.C., they were able to attend an unofficial formal presidential ball at the Smithsonian Museum, attend the “We Are One” concert held the day before the inauguration and visited the campus of Georgetown University.



Lynette Hidalgo and Emily Sotolongo together in Washington D.C. at the inauguration.

“We had the opportunity to hear General Colin L. Powell and former Vice President Al Gore speak to us. Their messages were simple: ‘We are the future and we have this great opportunity to witness history and be apart of history, so take full advantage!’ We also had the opportunity to hear James Carville, Mary Matalin and Luke Russert speak to us,” said Hidalgo.

Now back in Florida, Hidalgo and Sotolongo look back on their experiences.

“I was excited to simply have the opportunity to be in that crowd and be able to say years down the line that I was one of those one million plus. There was definitely a sense of hope, patriotism and unity shared among those in the crowd around me. This is one experience I will soon not forget,” said Hidalgo.

As for Sotolongo, “Emotions were very high; a lot of people were crying tears of joy. The one thing I will always remember was the amount of people that wanted to witness this historical event. This inauguration will be something I will tell my children about someday.”

MICHELLE OBAMA STYLE ICON

February 19, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

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First Lady Michelle Obama’s Fashion Proves to be Simple and Elegant

By MELANIE
SHANKEN
Staff Writer



Michelle Obama looks stunning in turquoise.

While new President Barack Obama tackles the issues to make our country a better place, new First Lady Michelle Obama has taken on the fashion world. With her sense of style and economic awareness, Michelle Obama has presented herself to the people of our country and to the rest of the world to be as cost conscious as she is fashion conscious.

Obama has been in the public eye from her appearances on television programs such as “The View” to official functions such as the inauguration. Whatever the occasion, the first lady is always dressed appropriately and with a style that exudes confidence and simplicity. Michelle Obama’s stylish way of dressing has not gone unnoticed by the press as well as by students at Lynn. “I think Michelle Obama always looks very chic and well put together,” said Kelsey Breining, senior.

The first lady has demonstrated her awareness of the economic position the United States is experiencing. Instead of choosing the better known expensive designer clothing she could be wearing, she has been quoted as saying she buys her everyday outfits at stores such as the boutiques White House/Black Market and Banana Republic. “The first lady seems to always be presenting herself very elegant and simple” said Perri Stilp, senior.

For the inauguration the first lady wore a simple but elegant yellow suit, and for the inaugural balls picked a white flowing gown by a virtually unknown designer named Jason Wu. “Michelle Obama always looks very classy,” said Amy Hartman, senior.



Obama poses with her family on election night.

The simple elegance and ease of Michelle Obama's fashion choices are reminiscent of First Lady Jackie Kennedy from the 1960s. A mother of two young children and the responsibilities that come with being first lady are two challenges that so far seem to come naturally to Obama. If clothes make the woman, the new first lady seems to have it made.

A CELEBRATION OF ORIGINS

February 19, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [Politics](#)

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Remembering Important Events of African American Culture

By AMANDA TOMEK

Staff Writer

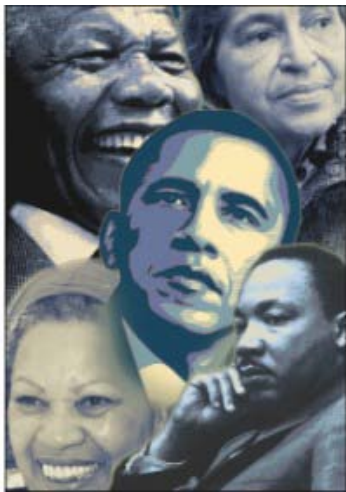


Photo Collage/ Samantha Bartley.

With the inauguration of our nation's first African American President and the celebration of Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday, the United States has come a long way. Carter G. Woodson knew the importance of focusing the public's attention on a specific theme when establishing Negro History Week in 1926. During the 1970s, The Black Power Movement influenced the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASNLH) to change Negro History Week to Black History Week, which was then extended to a month.

Special events are occurring all throughout South Florida in honor of Black History Month. The African American Film Festival is taking place from March 12 to March 26 at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in West Palm Beach. This is the festival's fourth season and has recently added a segment targeting high school students.

“Black History Month isn’t what it used to be. In high school we would usually read a book and discuss its relevance,” said Allie Mintz, junior. “I never hear my professors talk about it.”

The Spady Cultural Heritage Museum in Delray Beach is celebrating Black History Month with its lecture series, Connecting Culture and Community. The lectures, which touch on an array of topics, began in early February and will continue until March 3. The lectures are free to attend and include a question-and-answer session which has been known to create animated debates in the past.

“Black History Month is a month to honor history,” said Amanda Silbert, senior. “It is very interesting to learn and see recognition for this time in history.”

The Palm Beach County Convention Center is hosting an expo sponsored by the Black Shopping Channel, a television, Internet and online shopping source that allows small business owners a chance to promote their products to the African American market. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 7.

Black History Month’s purpose is to remember and commemorate the important people and events in the history of African American culture. It is celebrated in February to mark the birthdays of two great Americans who played an important role in influencing the lives of African Americans: Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass.

“I think it is messed up that they picked the shortest month of the year to celebrate and study the rich history of African Americans in the United States,” said Patrick Bernhard, senior.

Help celebrate Black History month by taking part in cultural events throughout the South Florida area. For more information visit the web site of The Association for the Study of African American Life and History who continues to endorse, protect and explore the culture and history of African Americans, www.asalh.org

MOVING INTO THE WHITE HOUSE

February 19, 2009 by [Katie Black](#)

Filed under [Politics](#)

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The Obamas Bring Change to Their New Home at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue

By KATIE BLACK
Staff Writer

The momentum of President Obama taking office and the first family moving into the White House has yet to calm. Everything from the new school that Malia, 10, and Sasha, 7, are attending.

Now something more fascinating is starting to catch the public’s attention. The Obamas seem to be changing the rules of the White House. “I think it’s awesome the way the Obamas are almost watched like celebrities,” said Ryan Brooks, sophomore.

According to People Magazine, Michelle Obama said, “I want this house to feel open.” In an address to the White House staff on the afternoon of her 45th birthday, Michelle Obama even told the tuxedo-clad waiters to dress casually and relaxed at all family meals and events.

The President signed executive orders reversing the secrecy rules put into place by former President Bush. Michelle Obama has changed Bush's dress codes for the oval office, returning to the casual attire of the Clinton era.

MSNBC.com reported Michelle Obama made public appearances around town within the family's first weeks in office. The first lady visited and addressed the Department of Education, Department of Housing and the Urban Development.

Although the first lady is hands-on with her new job, her daughters are her first priority. She recently told reporters, "I'm going to try to take them to school every morning, as much as I can."

Both girls have been in the spotlight recently, but not because of their parents. The toy company Ty recently released two dolls named Malia and Sasha. Ty claimed that the dolls were not modeled after the first family, but were forced to retire the dolls. "I think it's ridiculous how a toy company is treating these children," said Becky Mangone, sophomore.

With so many changes taking place within the first few months of President Obama being in office, the country will have a lot to talk about in the next four years.

THE iPULSE WANTS TO KNOW

February 19, 2009 by [Katie Black](#)

Filed under [On the Street](#), [People](#), [Politics](#)

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Students Are Asked: What Does Black History Month Mean to You?

By KATIE BLACK
Staff Writer



Denzel Samuel, freshman

"We honor individuals contributions to the African American community, Martin Luther King Jr, Malcolm X and now Barack Obama. We will never experience peaces until we can overcome the judgment of others."



Desean Graham-Jones, freshman

"Black history has always meant a lot to me. It's important to remember the past and recognize the struggle that Martin Luther King and Malcolm X fought so hard for. President Obama has a lot to live up to. We will have to wait and see if Obama really does make change."



Striker Lee, junior

“February is a month that gives us time to reflect on all the landmarks the African American community has made as a whole. It reminds us of what leaders such as Martin Luther King, Jr. have done for African Americans. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s dream has finally come true.”



Chanel Smith, junior

“Black History Month has always been very empowering to me. Barack Obama’s moving into the White House was a huge step in the right direction in the fight against racism. Black History has always meant a lot to me.”



Chris Batiste, junior

“Black History Month gives us a chance to remember where we came from. We still have a ways to go in the fight against racism. This year I believe that Black History Month is somewhat more meaningful because of the election of Barack Obama.”

HISTORY FIRTHAND

February 19, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [Politics](#)

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A Witness to Change in American Society

By CAROLINA
GONZALEZ
Editor-in-Chief



Matthew Walker sits in the library as he recounts his experiences. Photo/Carolina Gonzalez Editor-in-Chief.

Matthew Walker, senior, is completing his bachelor's degree in graphic design in the College of International Communication. Walker is a Washington, D.C., native and had the opportunity of being present at Barack Obama's Presidential Inauguration this past January.

Walker lives only five minutes away from where the inauguration took place. He attended the inauguration with his mother, father, aunt and one of his friends.

In a recent interview, Walker shares his experiences about the inauguration and its atmosphere.

"It was very crowded when I got there. There were thousands of people around me, and it was very cold. They were handing out American flags for everyone to wave. There were a ton of celebrities. Oprah was there, and so was Beyoncé," said Walker.

Although Walker hasn't really had a strong interest in politics, he said that now he is developing a greater understanding and is becoming more involved. Walker says that although Obama has only been in office for a short time, he's already done so many things to promote change.

Through his family, Walker felt a strong emotional connection with the inauguration of the first African American President. Walker talked about the rights African Americans have gained since the times of Martin Luther King, Jr.



The masses gather on their way to the Presidential inauguration in Washington, D.C.

“They’ve come a long way since blacks couldn’t eat in the same diner as whites. Now everyone is able to come together. It is amazing to see how much has progressed within a lifetime, within my parents’ lifetime. My father lived in the same neighborhood during the era of Martin Luther King Jr. At that time there was chaos and people were throwing televisions through store windows, since then it has come a long way. “

The inauguration of President Barack Obama was a time of celebration and a day that will forever be remembered in history. For the Walker family this day brought feelings of happiness and pride.

“My parents are just happy to see this event happen, and my mother is especially happy for my grandfather. Since the time my grandfather came from Trinidad; he has taken the time to get his American citizenship. Since the time he came to this country we have been able to gain so many rights. My grandfather was very proud that he was still alive to see the first African American man become president.”

Although President Obama has held his position for only a month, there is no telling how much progress he will be able to achieve during his tenure.



The crowd comes together in celebration waving American flags in a display of patriotism.
Photos/Matthew Walker.

THE SMARTPHONE SHOWDOWN

February 23, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Extra](#)

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The Blackberry vs the iPhone, Which Cell Phone Rings Supreme?

By Ali Mintz
Staff Writer



Blackberry

For many students cell phones are more than just a phone, it's a part of our daily life that we just cannot live without. The two most popular cell phones that students at Lynn have are the Blackberry and the iPhone. Some appreciate the new technology of the touch screen (now available in Blackberry), while others like the standard Blackberry Curve, World Edition, or the Pearl. The iPhone offers incredible photo quality and unique applications available for iPhone users. Over the summer, Apple introduced the new iPhone 3G, which is twice as fast and half the price. "I like my iPhone because it is very convenient," said Tara Cherry, senior. "It's like having a mini computer around at all times. I can also listen to music whenever I want because it

is an ipod as well!” On the opposite side of the spectrum, there are students who appreciate the traditional but up-to-date Blackberry.



Iphone

One of the popular tools on a Blackberry is Blackberry Messenger. It is a form of instant message for owners of a blackberry. “I love my Blackberry,” said Melanie Shanken, senior. “It is easy to get through to someone instantly through bbm’s, also know as blackberry massagers, and the Internet works great.” Blackberry is coming out with several new styles including the latest, Blackberry Storm, Blackberry’s first touch screen device available on the Verizon Network.

THE CITY ON THE MOVE

February 23, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Politics](#)

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Bustling Bogota Still Growing and Gaining Attention



City wall of Cartagena.

Bogotá is on the move. Once considered a place to avoid, the capital has cleaned up its act and is fast becoming one of Latin America's urban highlights. Improved security, infrastructure projects and a clean-up campaign have helped bring a new face to the metropolis.

Home to more than seven million people, Colombians still flock to Bogotá in search of opportunities. Many find that the streets are not exactly paved with gold and end up eking out an existence in one of the vast shantytowns that line the southern portion of the city.

Graceful churches, excellent museums, cultural events and a thriving nightlife can keep you busy for several days. Bogotá is also the political, financial and service center for the country, and its geographic heart, making it a useful base from which to explore the country. Despite its massive sprawl, Bogotá is dotted with parks and leisure spots. Cool air and almost daily rain sweep away residual pollution, and there are several high peaks to the east of town that help visitors keep perspective on the ground.



Plaza in Cartagena. Photo/Scott Plumb.

Most travelers spend their time in or around historic La Candelaria, a pleasant quarter of cafés, churches and museums. Northern Bogotá stands in great contrast to the south, turning up its nose to history and moving forward as a modern district of brash capitalist values.

Bogotá doesn't sweep visitors off their feet at first glance. But take some time to wander its historical areas, dine in its cafés, and visitors will find it offers much more than meets the eye.

Source: Lonely Planet

TRUE LIFE: THE REAL COLOMBIA

February 23, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [Politics](#)

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Striving South American Country Has Much to Offer to World at Large



Cartagena Plaza.

Vibrant cities like Bogotá and Medellín with streaking metros and soaring skyscrapers. The elegant port towns such as Cartagena cut by cobbled alleys and graced with bougainvillea-shrouded balconies. Spectacular national parks ranging from Garden-of-Eden-tropical to heavenly-high-alpine, and include the Parque Nacional Tayrona, jewel of the Caribbean Coast. Cruise boats, party buses, late night salsa dancing and shopping glory. Yes, this is Colombia. Get ready for shattered expectations. While media reports still speak of coca fields, violent crime, rebel shoot-ups and kidnappings, travelers are often left to wonder how so many troubles can plague a country that appears so normal.

Beyond the headlines is a thriving country with a rising middle class, some of the best health care and universities in South America, and an improved level of security. It is true that

Colombia also faces massive challenges in dealing with poverty, rebels and the long-standing Drug War, but security improvements have made many tourist destinations accessible to travelers.

Now is the time to go. Costs are low, the welcome is warm and Colombia's sour reputation has kept it off the 'gringo trail.' Many travelers consider Colombia a way station between better known overland destinations, such as Peru and Costa Rica. But once one explores its wealth of colonial-era towns, swam over its pristine reefs and trekked in its mountains, the land of myths, emeralds and El Dorado may become a highlight of any South American sojourn.



Fort San Felipe de Barajas in Cartagena. Photo/Scott Plumb.

So pack a pair of dancing shoes next to your hiking boots, throw in a mask, snorkel and sunscreen and tell your friends not to worry. They do not know what they are missing.

Source: Lonely Planet

AN AWE-INSPIRING ADVENTURE

February 23, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [Politics](#)

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The Sights and Sounds of Colombia Promises Excitement For Visitors



The city center of Barranquillero. Photo/Miguel Barrera.

- Dive into the tropical waters of the UNESCO Seaflower Biosphere Reserve around San Andrés and Providencia, home to a multitude of fish and coral species. Other diving hotspots include the Islas del Rosario and Tayrona National Park.
- Raft the rapids on the Rio Negro in Cundinamarca and Fonce or kayak through the Chicamocha canyon in Santander.
- Climb the snow-capped Nevado del Ruiz: the 5,400m (17,717ft) peak is one of five

permanently white-tipped volcanoes in Los Nevados National Park. Guided treks are available from Manizales.

- Take a jungle tour into the Amazon basin, which covers almost one-third of Colombia's territory. Boat trips depart from Leticia to the nearby Amacayu National Park and often include visits to Indian tribes.
- Stay on a coffee farm: over 300 haciendas offer lodging to tourists and can arrange walks through the coffee fields as well as horse riding, fishing, mountain biking and trips to local villages.
- Head off-road on a motorbike or 4-wheel drive vehicle: Colombia's rugged terrain is ideally suited to driving enthusiasts seeking a muddy challenge. Source: World Travel Guide

STUDENTS SET SAIL STUDYING COLOMBIA

February 23, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Campus](#), [Politics](#)

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Course offers Insight on the Colombian Culture

By SCOTT PLUMB
Assistant Editor



Lynn student poses with Colombian art. Photo/Megan Whelan.

Last month, students enrolled in intercultural communication Central America and the Caribbean January Term course set sail on Royal Caribbean's Jewel of the Seas for a 10-day one of a kind educational experience.

Although they visited several ports, one in particular grasped their attention, Colombia. Students visited the city of Cartagena and immersed themselves in the Colombian culture. Whether it was walking the streets, conversing with locals or bartering in the cities market, students realized the country does not live up to its stereotype image tarnished by the medias pretrial.

"I thought Colombia was all crime and corruption, but I found Cartagena to be very welcoming," said Max Richards, sophomore. "I would love spending more time in Cartagena, I would definitely go back."

Colombia is trying very hard to clean up their image by having the world look at them from a new perspective. It was clearly evident in Cartagena after the city's multimillion dollar renovation of the old city, which has recaptured the hearts of locals and visitors alike. The old city is full of history and is the heart beat of Cartagena.

"I loved how the citizens of Cartagena had pride in their city," said Perri Stilp, senior. "They showed us their positive attributes of what the city possesses."



A Colombian woman models the colorful cultural attire worn in the country. Photo/Megan Whelan.

Colombia served as a cornerstone for the trip. It was the first port in which the students were able to take the lessons learned on their floating classroom to the country visited.

The student's main educational focus on the trip was to study the differences between masculine versus feminine cultures, high context versus low context cultures and individualism versus collectivism.

By learning these important lessons in communication, students were able to compare how different cultures live out their daily lives.

In addition, students were able to learn outside the classroom. The January Term's mission was to educate students in real world environments in cities across the world.

The trip certainly allowed the students to take the education learned afloat and put it to use on their trip across South and Central America. Not only did students learn about the countries and cultures they visited, they were able to learn more about themselves.

FIND TRANQUILITY IN A ZEN OASIS

February 24, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [Best of Boca](#)

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An Asian-Inspired Secret Garden in the Heart of Palm Beach County

**By SHAINA
ROSENBLAT
Staff Writer**



The Morikami Falls are an amazing and powerful sight to see, with open space and many rock walls.

The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach offers spectators many different exhibits encompassing the Japanese culture, as well as beautiful gardens that are ranked eighth in 300 other Japanese gardens around the U.S.

There are 25 different types of gardens that date back between the 16th and 19th centuries. “The concept of the entire museum is Zen Buddhism,” said Edward Wall, employee. “It is to bring tranquility to our lives and to bring to you something that is quite valuable.”

The grave site of George Sukeji Morikami, the man who donated this parkland, is a very important area of the gardens to see. Morikami was a Japanese immigrant and area pioneer who donated the parkland to Palm Beach County for the enjoyment of the people of his adopted country.

The Morikami Gardens have numerous paths allowing visitors to experience gardens. On the walkway, there are park benches that have metal plates with dedications of the people who have contributed to the park and gardens.

“The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens is tranquil and truly delightful,” said Katie Balyszak, Lynn alum. “It is a place that I am sure to always take my family to when they are in town visiting me.”



Entrance to the gardens.

There are self guided audio tours available with information about the history of the park, in addition there are tour guides that will take guests around and answer any questions. Aside from the park, there are also many programs, classes, workshops and festivals that take place on the grounds year round.

SICK BOY PRODUCTIONS

February 24, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [Entertainment](#)

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Local Production Company Rocks South Florida Music Scene

By SPENSER LAURO
Staff Writer



Sick Boy Productions (S.B.P) is a hip new alternative music based production company out of Boynton Beach. S.B.P. have a network of local bands under their name and promote each band acting as a makeshift managing, booking and party production company. The company was created about a year ago by John Jordan in an attempt to join together local alternative bands to play multiple band gigs and parties.

Jordan, a rocker native to West Palm Beach, is in his own punk rock band, Remain Calm, which has been a large factor in the startup of the production company. Remain Calm was S.B.P.'s first client and has boosted their following and popularity greatly.

"Remain Calm has amazing shows that are always packed to the absolute max, just under fire code," said Grant Stateman, senior. "It's awesome, they really rock hard."

S.B.P. helps bands establish relationships with record companies while also acting as the liaison between the venue and the band while booking shows. S.B.P. is well connected throughout the local music communities and also has ties with some record labels. They have a huge following that brings out many young adults to the shows, which keeps the scene very lively and energetic. Some of the local venues that host S.B.P. shows are Mr. G's, Brogue's Irish Pub, Nobles and Deluxe.

S.B.P. has been very successful with more than 50 bands under their name and they are always on the lookout for fresh local talent. Sick Boy Productions is making waves as a young production company and is rising fast.

THE ROAD TO LYNN'S RUNWAY

February 24, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [Fashion](#)

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Students Walk the Catwalk in Hopes of a Spot in the Spring Fashion Show

By MELANIE
SHANKEN
Staff Writer



Jelena Lovric, senior, walks the runway. Staff Photo/Melanie Shanken.

The annual fashion show at Lynn University is back this semester with the upcoming production “Starlit.” Auditions took place in the Green Center on Feb. 10 where the potential new models showcased their best strut down the runway.

The auditions consisted of both male and female hopefuls who were asked to walk a straight line taped to the runway floor. For some of the models, this was not the first time participating in a fashion show at Lynn.

“The reason I want to be in the fashion show every year is because I get an adrenaline rush from walking down the runway,” said Jelena Lovic, senior.

The show is being overseen by fashion management professor Lisa Dandeo. The students who are chosen to model will wear clothing inspired by films that have had an impact on fashion through the decades.

“‘Starlit’ is a movie theme of films from the 1950s to the present,” said Tara Cherry, senior.

The retail management team is working hard to put together clothing from different vendors.

The styles worn in the show will depict film fashion icons such as Marilyn Monroe, Audrey Hepburn and Julia Roberts.

“I’m really excited to wear all the cool clothes,” said Lauren Breen, senior.

The proceeds from “Starlit” will go to an undisclosed children’s charity. “Everyone should attend this red carpet event to raise money for charity. We haven’t picked the charity; it might be Helping Hands or children in need,” said Cherry.

The models that are picked will show off their styles at the “Starlit” fashion show on April 21 on campus. Tickets will be available after spring break and range from \$10 to \$25; tickets purchased with a Lynn ID card are \$7.

Each year the fashion show outshines the year before. The students and staff are looking forward to hosting this exciting show.

ALUMNI ADVOCATES DIPLOMACY

February 24, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [People](#), [Politics](#), [Profiles](#)

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Graduate Obtains Prestigious Internship with Carter Center

By NICHOLAS
HINDHAUGH
Contributing Writer



Christian Ortiz poses with Rosalynn Carter and President Jimmy Carter. Photo/The Carter Center.

Christian Ortiz is a Lynn University alum who majored in international relations. After transferring to Lynn from Palm Beach Atlantic, Ortiz found a home here and graduated in May 2008. To Ortiz, Lynn seemed like a much better fit given his international background. He was also impressed by Lynn's International Relations Program.

Ortiz recently answered some questions of the iPulse.

Q) You recently completed an internship at the Carter Center, what did you do to get such a great internship?

A) Professor Anna Krift from the College of Arts and Sciences originally recommended me to look into the Carter Center, and she told me I would fit in great there. I looked into it and applied. I held an interview with one of the Carter Center directors and that is how I was accepted.

Q) What were your main duties while completing your internship?

A) My main duties consisted of monitoring South American politics through the Organization of American States (OAS). I prepared detailed reports about OAS events and developments for my directors and supported them in many different ways, as they advanced diplomatic efforts in countries like Bolivia, Venezuela, Ecuador and Nicaragua. I also gave a speech during my time there. While giving the speech to the Board of Counselors at the Carter Center, former President Jimmy Carter was present. I was presenting to the Board of Counselors about the internship program at the Carter Center and there were about 150 people there. It was very nerve racking because there were diplomats from all over the world along with President Carter.

Q) What was it like living in Atlanta and what did you do in your spare time?

A) Atlanta was a great city and it gave me the opportunity to learn a whole lot about "southern culture." In my spare time, I played soccer and spent most of my time with some great friends I met there.

Q) What are your plans now that you have completed the internship?

A) I will now be looking for full time employment. I wish to acquire a bit more experience before I look into a master or a doctorate program.

Q) What are your memories of Colombia, and what do you like most about the country?

A) Colombia is an amazing country, beautiful and diverse. My best memories are with my family and friends and also watching our glorious Colombian national soccer team. My family is from Bogota, Colombia. I lived there back in '94 and '95, but we have always spent our summers there. I lived in Paris for six months and often spend vacation time in Sicily, Italy. We have family there as well. So if our vacation is not in Colombia, it's usually in Sicily.

Q) Where do you see yourself in five years?

A) Five years from now, I will have accomplished my master's degree and I look forward to working and contributing to society. I can see myself working at the Organization of American States.

TRUSTWORTHY TANNING TIPS

February 25, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [Extra](#)

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Things to Keep in Mind Before Soaking Up the Rays

By BROOKE
BIDGOOD
Copy Editor



Students on the intercultural communication January Term trip to Haiti practice skin protection while playing in the surf. Staff Photo/Brittany Hutchinson.

While alcohol and drug abuse are large concerns for spring breakers, many overlook the harmful effects of sun damage. Students should arm themselves with knowledge about the sun and skin damage before they head off to vacation spots for Spring Break.

UVA and UVB rays are the two most common kinds of rays that are given off by the sun which cause skin damage. However, many people do not know the difference between the two, or the damage that they cause.

UVA rays penetrate the skin more deeply, which cause skin aging and wrinkling. Furthermore, UVA rays are present with equal intensity throughout all daylight hours, even penetrating through glass and cloudy skies.

UVB rays penetrate the surface layers of the skin causing skin reddening and sunburn. Sunburn plays a significant role in the cause of skin cancer. However, UVB rays do vary in concentration depending on the time of day, location and season.

Many tanners do not realize that even a tan with no sunburn causes damage to the skin's DNA. The darkening of the skin is the result of its attempt to try and prevent any further skin damage. It is false to believe that tanning beds are a healthier alternative. According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, the high-pressure sunlamps used in tanning salons emit doses of UVA rays as much as 12 times that of the sun.



There are currently numerous ways to protect skin from the sun's harmful rays. Hats, sunglasses and light-colored, loose fitting clothing all provide barriers for skin from the sun. There are even articles of clothing that are made with UPF (ultraviolet protection factor). "I always wear my vintage big brimmed sun hat to the beach," said Stephanie Williams, freshman. "It's a stylish way to protect myself."

While there is no way to stay completely free from harmful rays without staying indoors, there are important precautionary measures that should be taken when spending time on the beach or water. Always wear sunscreen with a minimum SPF (sun protection factor) of 15. The number of the SPF means that it will take that many times longer before the sun begins to redden the skin.

To all the spring breakers that are hitting the beaches next week, remember to wear sunscreen. The sun's rays may not cause immediate damage to the skin, but they could produce a harmful outcome later.

WORDS OF WARNING AND WISDOM

February 25, 2009 by [Samantha](#)

Filed under [Campus](#)

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The Consequences of Mixing Drugs and Alcohol May Be Lethal

By BROOKE
BIDGOOD
Copy Editor



A student poses at the Safe Spring Break Carnival with a sheet of paper promising she will not drink and drive. Staff Photo/Carolina Gonzalez.

The words spring break and party are nearly synonymous with each other. However, often times, along with these words come terms such as drugs and alcohol. Spring break is infamous for wild parties, theft, violence, and of course, drug and alcohol abuse. Unfortunately, many individuals are uninformed about how serious these issues really are, and in what manner they should be handled.

The most obvious thing to remember, which is often times ignored, is never drink and drive. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that there were 17,000 alcohol-related traffic fatalities last year. Avoid getting behind the wheel by planning for transportation before drinks begin flowing.

“My friends and I take turns being a designated driver,” said Shannon O’Donnell, senior. “It is the responsible thing to do.”

According to a University of Wisconsin study, 75 percent of college males and 43 percent of females reported being intoxicated on a daily basis during spring break. Another study of student’s drinking patterns on spring break found that of 783 people surveyed, nearly 50 percent of men and 40 percent of women drank until they became sick or passed out. If students make the decision to drink, it is a good rule of thumb to pace alcohol consumption. Furthermore, always remember that drinking in a crowded and unfamiliar place makes individuals good targets for theft, violence and sexual abuse.



A student wears drunk stimulation goggles while driving a golf cart with Wackenhut.

Drug abuse is another important issue plaguing students on spring break. Alcohol should never be mixed with any kind of drug, prescription or over-the-counter. Furthermore, drinks should never be left unattended in order to prevent someone from slipping drugs into a drink. Overall, students should remember to stay smart if they plan to drink on spring break. It may be a good idea to investigate the local alcohol laws of one's spring break destination too. Remember, spring break can be a good time, while still being a safe time.



The Counseling Center had an information table set up for students. Photo/LU Photos.

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HELPFUL HINTS

February 25, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Extra](#)

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Staying Safe During Spring Break

By BROOKE
BIDGOOD
Copy Editor

- On road trips make sure everyone has a valid drivers license, and the vehicle registration is in the car.
- Reserve hotel rooms that are above the first floor as first room floors are more easily broken into.
- Visit the ATM in groups to discourage anyone from trying to steal.
- Make sure there is not another person who may catch the PIN number at the ATM.
- Remember the sun maximizes the effects of alcohol.
- Beware of rip currents when swimming in the ocean. Swim parallel to shore until the rip passes.
- Know the flag warning system when taking a dip in the ocean over vacation.
- Hot tubs also increase the effects of alcohol.
- Go out with friends, go home with friends
- Do not accept drinks from strangers and do not leave drinks unattended.
- Always use safer sex practices.
- When traveling to a foreign country remember passport documentation, do not bring valuables and know the laws of the country.
- Do not leave valuables in hotel room.

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ANNUAL SAFE SPRING BREAK CARNIVAL

February 25, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Campus](#)

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Lynn Encourages Its Students to Have a Smart Spring Break

By BROOKE
BIDGOOD
Copy Editor



Brandan Ackerman helps make 'mocktails' during the Safe Spring Break Carnival last year.
Photo/LU Photos.

The fourth annual Safe Spring Break Carnival will take place today on the Student Center lawn from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The carnival, which is presented by the Counseling Center and the University Substance Abuse Committee, aims at educating and encouraging students on various ways to have a safe spring break.

Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment Specialist, Gail DeCina, has played a large role in organizing this special event for Lynn University. "The goal of this event is to provide guidelines for students to help prevent alcohol poisoning," said DeCina.

The carnival will be packed with interactive activities that will give participants numerous hands on and educational opportunities.



A student wears drunk simulation goggles while playing a driving video game bringing awareness to the effects of drunk driving. Staff Photo/Carolina Gonzalez.

It will even host the Florida Highway Patrol who will be administering field sobriety tests.

There will be a dunk tank that uses beer goggles sponsored by the Law and Justice Club, a DUI simulator, a beer goggle obstacle course, mocktails sponsored by Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority, a DJ, food and iPod T-shirts among many other things.

"It is recommended that students follow the 0-1-2-3 method when drinking alcohol; 0 drinks when driving, no more than one drink per hour, no more than twice in one week and no more

than three drinks at any one sitting,” said DeCina. “In addition to alcohol and other drug awareness, being safe over spring break should include the use of condoms, sunscreen and spending time in a healthy way, whether through activities such as sports, volunteering, or in other safe but enjoyable pursuits.”



Last year there was a picture memorial of victims of alcohol and abuse related accidents.

Today’s Spring Break Carnival will be a fun and insightful experience for everyone. No matter what students may have planned for their week away from school, the carnival is sure to provide attendees with useful information and a good time.



Below: Professor DeCerbo gets ready to take a plunge into the dunk tank. Staff Photo/Carolina Gonzalez and LU Photos.

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ALL BARK AND NO BITE

- February 26, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Best of Boca](#)
- [Leave a Comment](#)
- Wagging Tails at the AKC All Breed Dog Show**
- By KATHERINE PAXSON and AMANDA TOMEK**
Staff Writers



- Pomeranian Bon was the winner of Best in Show. Photo/Katherine Paxson.
- All dogs were fluffed and the sun was shining this past Saturday, February 21 at the annual “AKC All Breed Championship Dog Show” in the Sunset Cove Amphitheater in Boca Raton. The dog show was sponsored by the Boca Raton Dog Club, “a nonprofit organization that serves to make a better life for all within our community and to nurture our faithful friends.”
With a variety of breeds and a total of 362 entries, these canines are held to the highest standards of perfection and are strictly judged according to the American Kennel Club’s guidelines. “The owners of the contestants can be pretty feisty,” said Erika Schwartz, senior.
“I took my Pomeranian, JD, and a woman criticized my dog for being too fluffy! She wouldn’t even let her dog come near mine.”
Lynn’s Office of Admissions and students volunteered at the event manning the Lynn

University promotional booth. Chenelle Seraphin, staff member in the Office of Admissions said, "Volunteering at the event is a way for Lynn University to become more involved in the community."

"It was the first dog show I had ever attended," said Tara Cherry, senior. "It was a fun new experience and was interesting to see so many different dog breeds in one place." There were ribbons for the dogs who won their breed category. Dave and Janet Desmond, Jupiter residents, and their German shepherd Kaos won Best in Breed.

"Dog Shows like this one are conformation shows. If the dog conforms to breed standards," said Janet Desmond.

Dave and Janet Desmond's German Shepherd Kaos won their seventh championship on Saturday in the Herding Breed group. Janet Desmond not only competes in dog shows, but is also the President of the Treasure Coast German Shepherd Dog Club in the Tri-county area.

"We are dedicated to the education, training, and proper care for the dogs," she said. Out of all the spectacular dogs that competed on Saturday, there could only be one winner to take home the title of Best in Show. California resident Noble Inglett's Pomeranian Bon won the renowned title.

It was Bon and Inglett's first win in Florida, but their tenth Best in Show award.

Currently, Inglett's Pomeranian is number one in the country. The hard work for both man and man's best friend paid off from being participants in dog show competitions every weekend. "It is always an amazing feeling that never gets old as long as he shows his little heart out, and he did," said Inglett.

The AKC All Breed Championship Dog Show was a spectacle of an event and a hope for a win by dogs and their owners. It takes a lot of hard work, preparation, and heart to compete in these championships with all participants hoping to take home the Best in Show title.

• **LYNN SOFTBALL BACK ON TRACK**

- February 26, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Athletics](#)
- [Leave a Comment](#)
- Lynn Women's Softball Team Traveled to Alabama for Charger Chillout
- By CRISTIE KAUFMAN
Staff Writer



- The Lynn softball team watches from the sidelines.

- Lynn University's softball team traveled to Alabama recently to face some competitive play from teams all over the nation including: Georgia, Indiana, Florida, Kentucky and Alabama.

After two days of travel, and a stop in Georgia, the Fighting Knights finally made their way into 35 degree weather of Alabama. These women faced six different teams by the tournament's end.

Although the Knights started off to a rough start, they began to turn things around with two wins in Alabama.

"We have worked so hard in practice and have a lot of talent. We just want to show everyone what we can do," said Kathleen Smith, junior. "We don't mind being the underdog but we definitely plan on beating some tough teams to earn the respect we deserve."

The Knights returned this year with nine veterans and seven new additions. Having two seniors and eight juniors, these women possess enough experience and knowledge of the game to finish at the top of their conference.



- The softball team has a meeting with the coach. Staff Photos/Cristie Kaufman.
 - "Not only do we have a team of hardworking individuals, but our strong chemistry on and off the field is another factor that will contribute to our success," said Smith. "Losing 15 games by just one run last year really pushed all of us to work even harder this year. We beat a division 1 school in the fall, along with a tough team from our division so, we know we have what it takes and we hopefully can use that as motivation to do really well this year."
- Finishing the previous year with an 18-36 record, these women are set on making a new name for themselves and Lynn Softball.

• THE BEST BEACHES IN BOCA RATON

- February 26, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Best of Boca](#)
- [1 Comment](#)
- A Simple Guide to Beaches from Spanish River Beach to Red Reef Park
- By SPENSER LAURO
Staff Writer



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- The boardwalk at Spanish River Park and Beach. Staff Photo/Spenser Lauro.
- The city of Boca Raton is known for its stunning landscape and warm weather year round. Boca is an ideal destination for anyone looking to hit the beaches. There are several exceptionally stunning beaches loaded with great views and crystal clear water. Here is a simple guide to Boca's local beaches.

Starting at the northeast end of Boca is Spanish River Park and Beach. It was given this name due to its location just south of Spanish River Boulevard. This is by far one of Boca's most recognized and loved beaches.

"Spanish River is definitely my favorite beach without a doubt," said Hilary Gallagher, junior and vice president of Lynn University's Beach Bum Club. "It's right down the road from school, which is absolutely awesome."

The west side has the intercoastal waterway, and to the east, there is a very long tunnel that leads to the beach.

While continuing two miles south down the coast on A1A, Red Reef Park is on the east side of the highway. Red Reef Park is one of Boca's most unique and visually appealing beaches.

"This beach is just absolutely exquisite," said Erik Milz, sophomore. "All 67 ocean front acres of it."

This beach offers everything from snorkeling to nature walks through the trees and heavily foliated areas. Even the walkway that leads down to the beach offers beautiful views. There are also grilling and picnic areas available. Other amenities include bathrooms and tables.

Two miles south of Red Reef Park is the southernmost beach in Boca Raton, South Beach Park. The beach is very popular with students, and has many beach activities such as beach volleyball. There are food vendors in the parking lot in front at the pavilion, where many gaze at the beaches beauty above the sand.

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- ## ROURKE WRESTLES TO THE TOP

- February 26, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Entertainment](#)
- [Leave a Comment](#)
- Mickey Rourke and Marisa Tomei Shine in Oscar Nominated "The Wrestler"
- By DREW LUCOT
Staff Writer



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- The Wrestler's movie poster.
- "The Wrestler," is a sports drama starring Mickey Rourke and Marisa Tomei. "Blood, sweat and tears." Many have heard these three words on and off the sports fields, and now they make their way into the squared circle. Randy The Ram Robinson (Mickey Rourke) was on top of the wrestling world in the 1980's, until time got the best of him. Now, he struggles to make ends meet living in a trailer park, and making appearances throughout the independent circuit. Idolized by many die-hard fans, it is their cheering and support that makes Randy keep doing the thing he loves most, to wrestle. When he is not wrestling he usually visits a club where he takes a liking to a dancer named Pam, otherwise known to the club's patrons as Cassidy (Marisa Tomei). She convinces Randy to reach out to his estranged daughter Stephanie (Evan Rachel Wood) who clearly wants nothing to do with her aging and broken down father. At the same time, the 20-year anniversary between him and a former opponent is nearing with large implications and fanfare. Randy realizes that this might be his last shot to get back on top, but if he takes it, this fight will restart his career.
- "At first I had doubts about the movie because I am not a fan of professional wrestling, and my boyfriend made me go. But it gives you an uplifting feeling that leaves you feeling good," said Emily Snyder, freshman. "It was very inspiring."
- To me, this movie was absolutely outstanding. This is easily the best sports drama in the past five years, and a definite feel-good movie for anyone to enjoy.
- Mickey Rourke not only nailed the role of Randy The Ram, but also makes you relate to anyone who is trying to get back on top. It also shows the darker side of professional wrestling and the devastating toll it can have on a man's body and life.
- If one loves comebacks and cheering for the underdog, this movie is for you. I give it a four out of five stars.

• VOLUNTEERING ON THE GREEN

- February 26, 2009 by [Samantha](#)
Filed under [Campus](#), [Featured](#)
- [Leave a Comment](#)
- Students Take Part in Allianz Championship Golf Tournament
- By ASHLEY
PHILLIPS
Staff Writer



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- Gary Myers, senior, holds score card at Allianz Championship Golf Tournament in Boca Raton.
- The third annual Allianz Championship golf tournament hit the course of the Old Broken Sound Golf Club this past week. The event was charity based and all proceeds went to the Boca Raton Community Hospital.

Returned golf legends, sponsors and volunteers came back to show support. Lynn Universities Sports Management and Hospitality Management students volunteered for its third year. Students enjoyed themselves while volunteering.

“Having the opportunity to meet pro golfers and the atmosphere of the golf tournament was a lot of fun,” said Daniel Silverstein, senior.

Each volunteer had his or her own position to be worked, such as, checking credentials at the clubhouse, working admissions, helping televise the tournament on the Golf Channel and being caddy for the golfers.

“I worked admissions last year and this year. I enjoyed it, it was fun to meet and greet people at,” said Lauren Fry, junior.

The tournament held pro golfers such as Jay Haas, Fuzzy Zoeller, Nick Price and Gary Player. In addition a Junior Pro-Am was held where teenagers could play and obtain golfing tips from the pros.

“It was my first year volunteering, and I definitely would again, but work a different position to get a little more out of it,” said Silverstein.



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- A student aids with check in at the tournament. Photos/Ashley Phillips.
- Both Silverstein and Fry believe that this event was an excellent good experience.
“Volunteering at these charity events look good on resumes and it was a good working environment,” said Fry.



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